

## AFNI Soup to Nuts: How to Analyze Data with AFNI from Start to Finish

- There is no single “correct” way to analyze fMRI data. The path your data takes will depend on the quality of the data, the complexity of the experiment, and the needs of the researcher.
  - ❖ However, there are some typical processing steps that are widely used. These steps are introduced and discussed in this handout.
  - ❖ All processing steps will be done with AFNI (hence, AFNI “soup to nuts”).
  - ❖ The sample study used for this hands-on is a real study, although the variable names have been slightly modified.
- **afni\_proc.py**
  - ❖ The data processing script discussed in this handout was generated by a program in AFNI called **afni\_proc.py**.
  - ❖ Specifically, **afni\_proc.py** is a python script that can generate a single-subject data analysis script by asking the user to provide information regarding their study, such as input datasets and stimulus files that will be used. The program also asks for more specific information, such as the number of TRs to be removed (if any), the EPI volume that will be used to align the remaining volumes, and additional information necessary for the regression or deconvolution analysis that will follow.

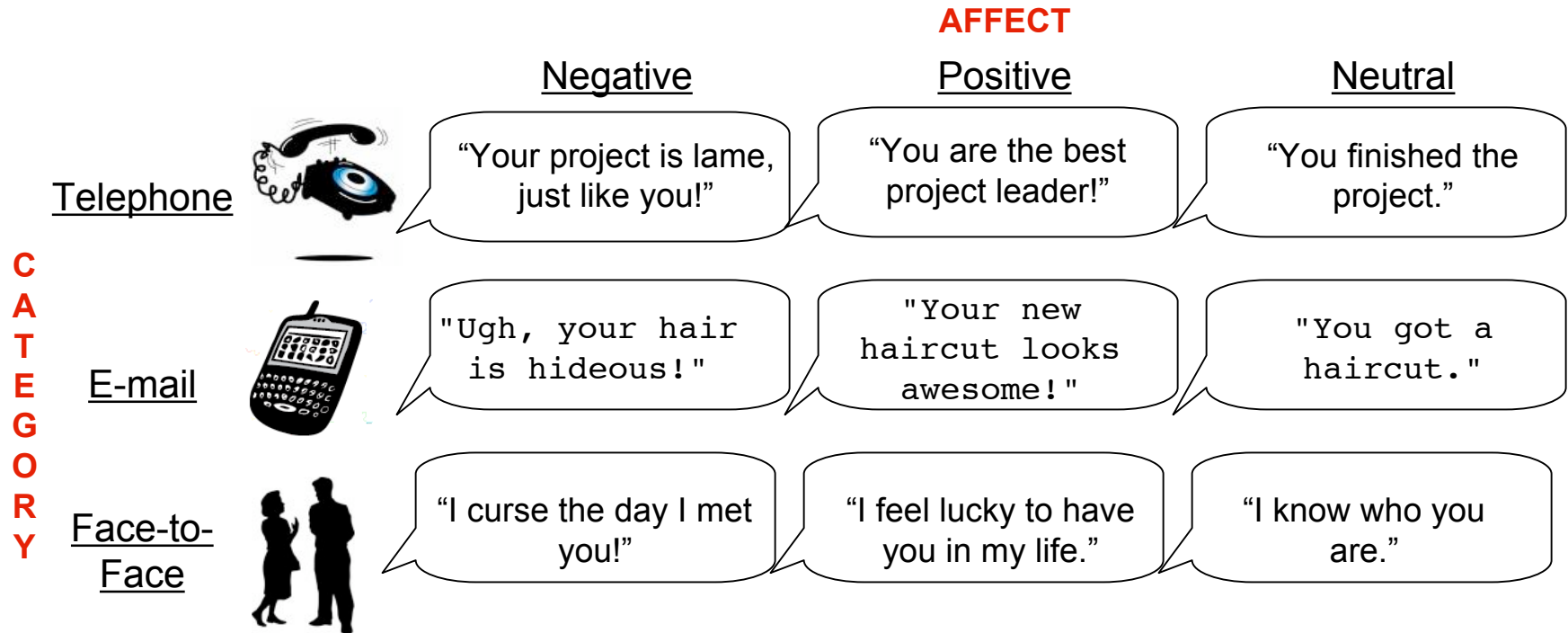
- At the moment, this information is input via a command-line interface, or with an optional question/answer session (**afni\_proc.py -ask\_me**). Eventually, a GUI will become available (but not yet).
- ❖ Once **afni\_proc.py** has all the necessary information, it produces a **tcsh** (T-shell) script that contains all the data processing steps. This script can be easily executed and the end result will be a functional/statistical dataset, as well as numerous datasets produced from the intermediary steps.
- **Before we go any further, start the processing script :**
  - ❖ we will discuss it more, soon
  - ❖ under **AFNI\_data4**, execute the script containing the **afni\_proc.py** command
    - this will create the processing script, **proc.sb23.blk**
  - ❖ execute the **proc.sb23.blk** script, as recommended by **afni\_proc.py**
    - takes ~4 minutes on my laptop

```
cd AFNI_data4
tcsh s1.afni_proc.block
tcsh -x proc.sb23.blk |& tee output.proc.sb23.blk
```

- **The Experiment :**

- ❖ Cognitive Task: Subjects see photographs of two people interacting.
  - The mode of communication falls in one of 3 *categories*: via telephone, email, or face-to-face.
  - The *affect* portrayed is either negative, positive, or neutral in nature.
- ❖ Experimental Design: 3x3 Factorial design, BLOCKED trials
  - Factor A: **CATEGORY** - (1) Telephone, (2) E-mail, (3) Face-to-Face
  - Factor B: **AFFECT** - (1) Negative, (2) Positive, (3) Neutral
  - A random 30-second block of photographs for a task (ON), followed by a 30-second block of the control condition of scrambled photographs (OFF), and so on.
  - Each run has 3 ON blocks, 3 OFF blocks. There are 9 runs in a scanning session.

❖ Illustration of Stimulus Conditions:



❖ Data Collected:

- 1 Anatomical (MPRAGE) dataset for each subject
  - 124 axial slices
  - voxel dimensions = 0.938 x 0.938 x 1.2 mm
- 9 Time Series (EPI) datasets for each subject
  - 34 axial slices x 67 volumes = 2278 slices per run
  - TR = 3 sec; voxel dimensions = 3.75 x 3.75 x 3.5 mm
- Sample size, n=16 (all right handed)

- **Analysis Steps:**

- ❖ **Part I:** Process data for each individual subject (using **afni\_proc.py**)
  - Pre-process subjects' data  $\Rightarrow$  many steps involved here...
  - Run regression analysis on each subject's data --- **3dDeconvolve**
- ❖ **Part II:** Run group analysis
  - warp results to standard space
  - 3-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) --- **3dANOVA3**
    - Category (3) x Affect (3) x Subjects (16)  $\Rightarrow$  3-way ANOVA

- **Class work for Part I:**

- ❖ view the original data by running **afni** from the subject **sb23/** directory
- ❖ then view output data from the **sb23.blk.results/** directory

```
cd AFNI_data4/sb23
ls
afni &
```

- **Back to afni\_proc.py :**

- ❖ For our class example, we can take a look at the **afni\_proc.py** command we've written up already and saved as an executable script called **s1.afni\_proc.block** (perhaps viewing in a different terminal window)

```
cd AFNI_data4
gedit s1.afni_proc.block
```

- note: gedit is a text editor (can also use *nedit*, *emacs* or *vi*)

```
afni_proc.py \
    -subj_id sb23.blk \
    -dsets sb23/epi_r??+orig.HEAD \
    -copy_anat sb23/sb23_mpra+orig \
    -tcats_remove_first_trs 3 \
    -volreg_align_to last \
    -regress_make_ideal_sum sum_ideal.1D \
    -regress_stim_times sb23/stim_files/blk_times.*.1D \
    -regress_stim_labels tneg tpos tneu eneg epos \
    eneu fneg fpos fneu \
    -regress_basis 'BLOCK(30,1)' \
    -regress_opts_3dD \
    -gltsym 'SYM: +eneg -fneg' \
    -glt_label 1 eneg_vs_fneg \
    -gltsym 'SYM: 0.5*fneg 0.5*fpos -1.0*fneu' \
    -glt_label 2 face_contrast \
    -gltsym 'SYM: tpos epos fpos -tneg -eneg -fneg' \
    -glt_label 3 pos_vs_neg
```

❖ Line-by-Line Explanation of **s1.afni\_proc.block** command:

- **-subj\_id**: Specify a subject ID name for the processing script that will be created by executing the **s1.afni\_proc.block** script. The ID in this example is **sb23.blk**
- **-dsets** : Specify the name of the time series datasets that will be analyzed, as well as the directory path in which they reside. Here, they are called **epi\_r03+orig .. epi\_r11+orig**, residing in directory **sb23/** (note that **.HEAD** is required for wildcard matching)
- **-copy\_anat**: This option will take the anatomical dataset **sb23\_mpra+orig** that currently resides in **sb23/** and copy it into the results directory (the results directory will be created once the processing script has been run)
- **tcat\_remove\_first\_trs**: This option removes 'x' number of timepoints from the beginning of each time series run. Here, we have chosen to remove the first 3 timepoints from each run
- **-volreg\_align\_to**: This volume registration option asks the user to choose which volume will be the base by which all other volumes in the time series runs are aligned. Here we have chosen the **last** volume from the last epi run (run 9)
- **-regress\_make\_ideal\_sum**: Sums the ideal response curves from the regressors and saves as a 1D file, e.g., **sum\_ideal.1D**
- **-regress\_stim\_times**: Specifies the name and location of the stimulus timing files for our experiment. In this example, they are **sb23/stim\_files/blk\_times.\*.1D**

- ❖ Line-by-Line Explanation of **s1.afni\_proc.block** command (cont...)
  - **-regress\_stim\_labels**: Specifies the names of our 9 regressors: **tneg**, **tpos**, **tneu**, **eneg**, **epos**, **eneu**, **fneg**, **fpos**, and **fneu**
  - **-regress\_basis**: Specifies the regression basis function to be used by **3dDeconvolve** in the regression step. In this example, we have '**BLOCK(30,1)**', which is a 30-second BLOCK response function (with a peak of 1).
  - **-regress\_opts\_3dT**: Allows for additional **3dDeconvolve** options, such as general linear tests (glt's)

- ❖ We have previously executed the afni\_proc.py script, **s1.afni\_proc.block**.

(already done)      **tcsh s1.afni\_proc.block**

- ❖ The result is an auto-generated processing script called **proc.sb23.blk**. Use a text editor like gedit, nedit, emacs, or vi to open and view this new script:

**gedit proc.sb23.blk**

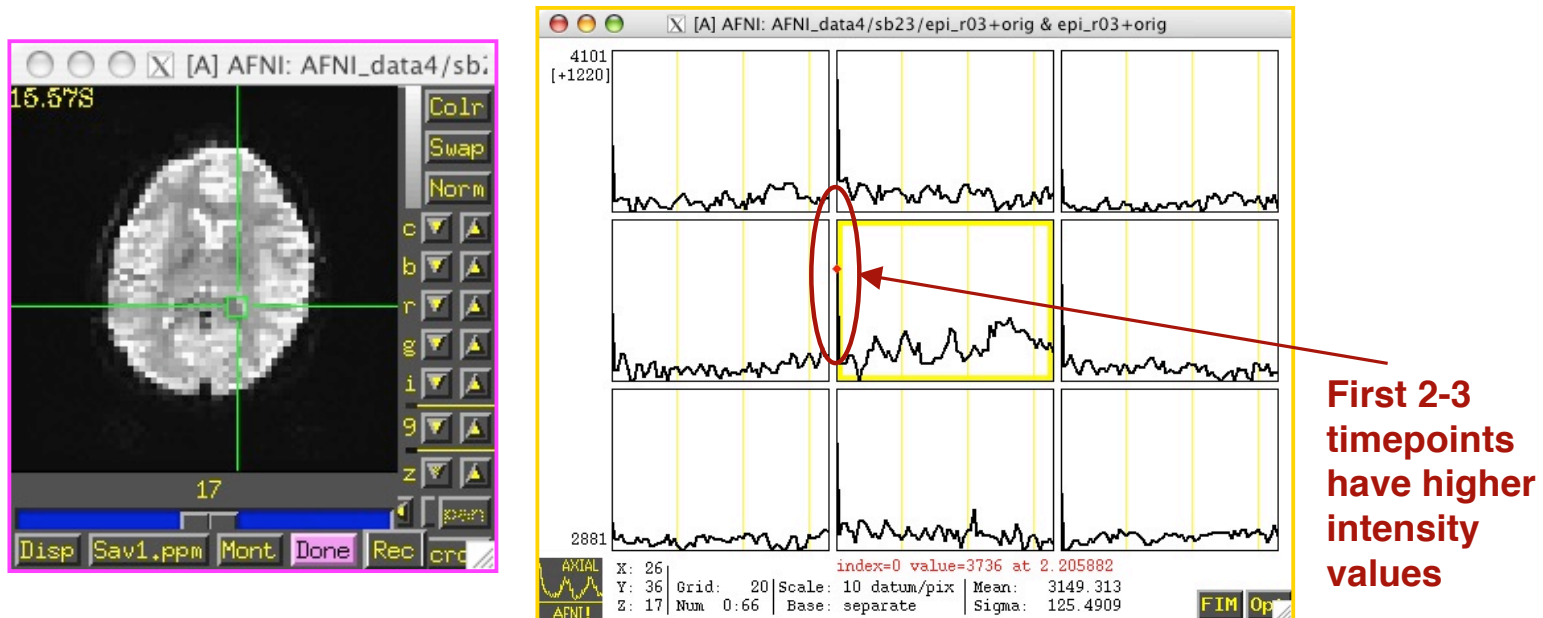
- ❖ You will notice that script **proc.sb23.blk** includes multiple processing steps for the data, including volume registration, blurring, data scaling, and much more. Each step is run by an AFNI program. The next section (Part I) will go over each processing step in detail.



- **PART I ⇒ Process Data for each Individual Subject:**

- ❖ Hands-on example: Subject **sb23**
- ❖ Data Processing Script created by afni\_proc.py program: **proc.sb23.blk**
- ❖ We will begin with sb23's anatomical dataset and 9 time-series (3D+time) datasets:  
**sb23\_mpra+orig**, **sb23\_mpra+tlrc**, **epi\_r03orig**, **ED\_r04+orig** ...  
**epi\_r11+orig**

- Below is **sb23\_r03+orig** (3D+time) dataset. Notice the first few time points of the time series have relatively high intensities\*. We will need to remove them later:



- \* Images obtained during the first 4-6 seconds of scanning will have much larger intensities than images in the rest of the timeseries, when magnetization (and therefore intensity) has decreased to its steady state value

- Pre-processing is done by the `proc.sb23.blk` script within the directory, `AFNI_data4/sb23.blk.results/`.
  - ❖ open the `proc.sb23.blk` script in an editor (such as `gedit`), and follow the script while viewing the results
  - ❖ also, go to the `sb23.blk.results` directory to start viewing the results
  - ❖ starting from the `sb23/` directory (from the previous slides)...

```
cd ..  
gedit proc.sb23.blk &  
cd sb23.blk.results  
ls  
afni &
```

- ❖ note that in the script, the `count` command is used to set the `$runs` variable as a list of run indices:
  - `set runs = ( `count -digits 2 1 9` )`  
becomes (by the shell quietly executing the `count` command):
    - `set runs = ( 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 )`
- ❖ And so:
  - `foreach run ( $runs )`  
becomes (when the shell expands the `$runs` variable):
    - `foreach run ( 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 )`

- **STEP 0 (tcat)**: Apply 3dTcat to copy datasets into the results directory, while removing the first 3 TRs from each run.

❖ The first 3 TRs from each run occurred before the scanner reached a steady state.

```
3dTcat -prefix $output_dir/pb00.$subj.r01.tcat \
      sb23/sb23_r03+orig'[3..$]'
```

- ❖ The output datasets are placed into `$output_dir`, which is the results directory.
- ❖ Using sub-brick selector `'[3..$]'` sub-bricks 0, 1, and 2 will be skipped.
  - The `'$'` character denotes the last sub-brick.
  - The single quotes prevent the shell from interpreting the `'['` and `'$'` characters.
- ❖ The output dataset name format is:

```
pb00.$subj.r01.tcat (.HEAD / .BRICK)
```

- `pb00` : process block 00
- `$subj` : the subject ID (`sb23`, in this case)
- `r01` : EPI data from run 1
- `tcat` : the name of this processing block (according to `afni_proc.py`)  
(other block names are `tshift`, `volreg`, `blur`, `mask`, `scale`, `regress`)

- **STEP 1 (tshift)**: Check for possible “outliers” in each of the 9 time series datasets using 3dToutcount . Then perform temporal alignment using 3dTshift.

- ❖ An outlier is usually seen as an isolated spike in the data, which may be due to a number of factors, such as subject head motion or scanner irregularities.
- ❖ The outlier is not a true signal that results from presentation of a stimulus event, but rather, an artifact from something else -- it is noise.

```
foreach run (01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09)
    3dToutcount -automask pb00.$subj.r$run.tcat+orig \
                > outcount_r$run.1D
end
```

- ❖ How does this program work? For each time series, the trend and Median Absolute Deviation are calculated. Points far away from the trend are considered outliers.
  - "far away" is defined as at least  $5.219 \times \text{MAD}$  (for a time series of 64 TRs)
    - see **3dToutcount -help** for specifics
  - **-automask**: does the outlier check only on voxels within the brain and ignores background voxels (which are detected by the program because of their smaller intensity values)
  - **>** : redirects output to the text file `outcount_r01.1D` (for example), instead of sending it to the terminal window.

- ❖ Subject sb23's outlier files:

**outcount\_r01.1D**

**outcount\_r02.1D**

...

**outcount\_r09.1D**

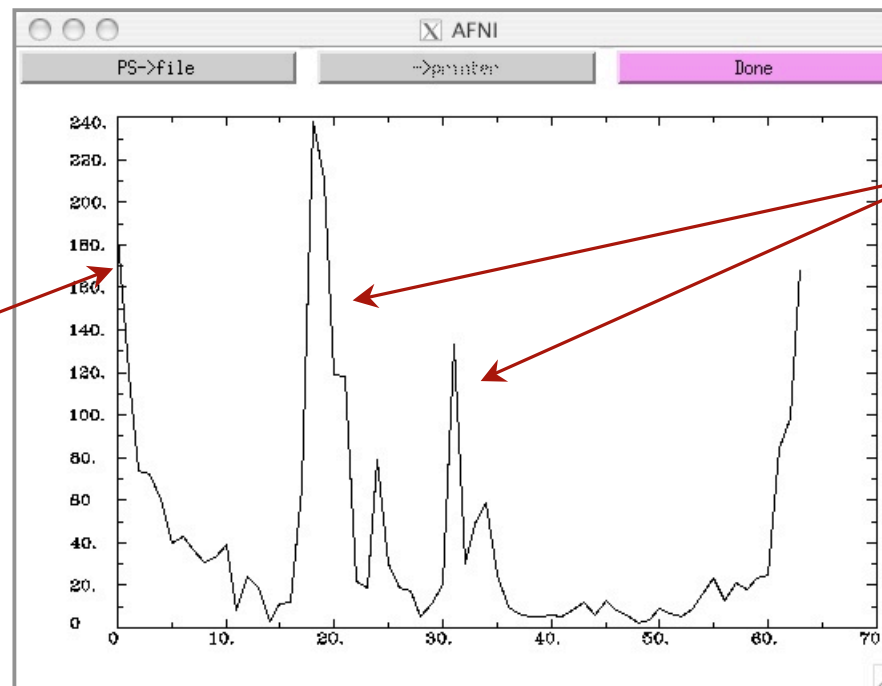
**Note:** "1D" is used to identify a numerical text file. In this case, each file consists a column of 64 numbers (b/c of 64 time points).

- ❖ Use AFNI **1dplot** to display any one of ED's outlier files. For example:

**1dplot outcount\_r08.1D**

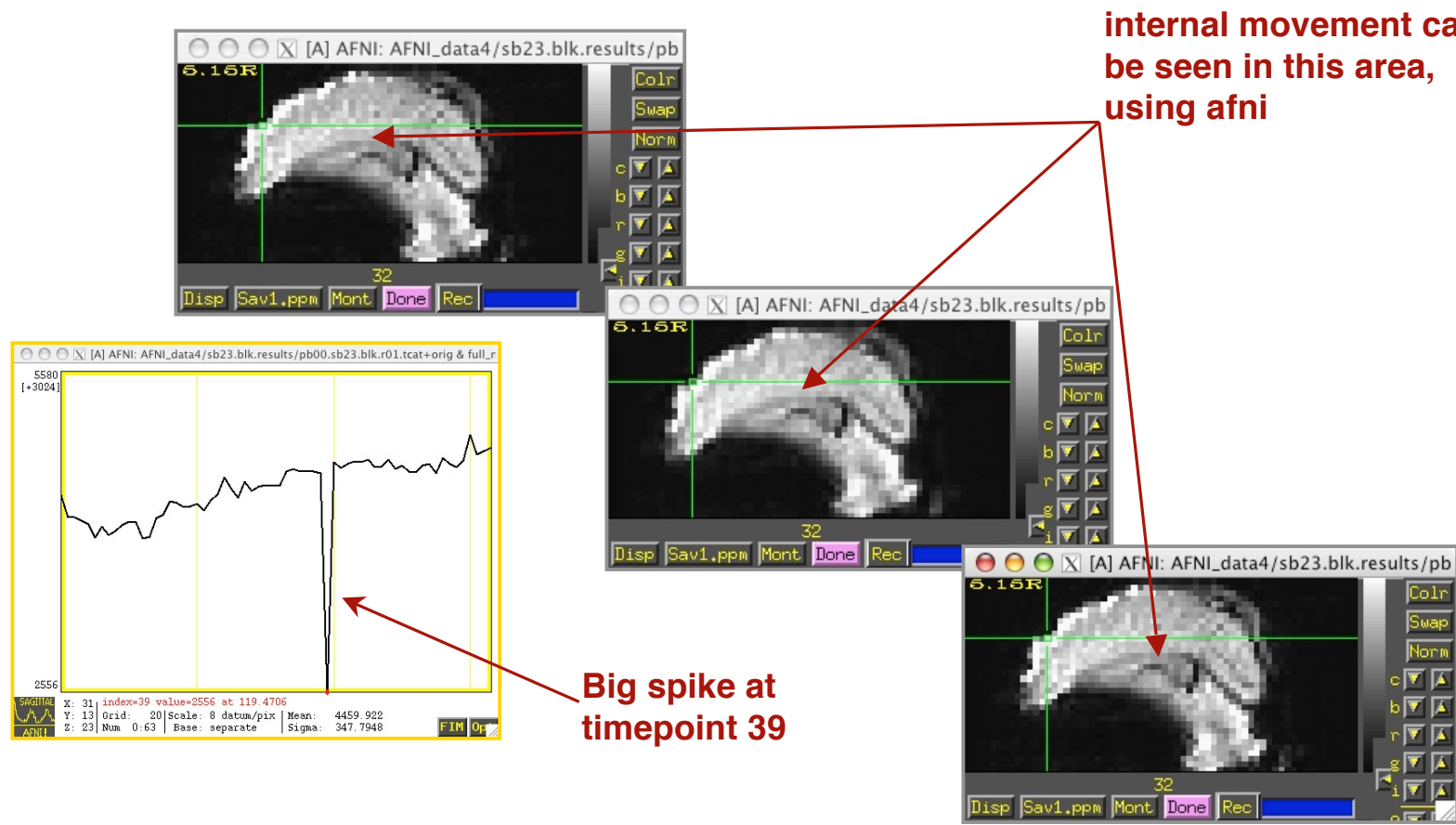
**Number of  
'outlier' voxels,  
per TR**

**High intensity values  
in the beginning are  
usually due to  
scanner attempting  
to reach steady  
state.**



**Outliers?  
Inspect the data.**

- ❖ in **afni**, view run 01, time points 38, 39 and 40
- ❖ while it appears that something happened at time point 39 - such as a swallow, sneeze, or similar movement - it may not be enough to worry about
- ❖ if there had been a more significant problem, and if it could not be fixed by **3dvolreg**, then it might be good to censor this time point via the **-censor** option in **3dDeconvolve**



- Next, perform temporal alignment using `3dTshift`.
  - ❖ Slices were acquired in an interleaved manner (slice 0, 2, 4, ..., 1, 3, 5, ...).
  - ❖ Interpolate each voxel's time series onto a new time grid, as if each entire volume had been acquired at the beginning of the TR (TR=3 seconds in this example)
    - For example, slice #0 was acquired at times  $t = 0, 3, 6, 9$ , etc., in seconds. However, slice #1 was acquired at times  $t = 1.5, 4.5, 7.5, 10.5$ , etc., which is asynchronous with the TR.
    - After applying `3dTshift`, *all* slices will have offset times of  $t = 0, 3, 6$ , etc.

```
3dTshift -tzero 0 -quintic \
        -prefix pb01.$subj.r$run.tshift \
        pb00.$subj.r$run.tcat+orig
```

- `-tzero 0` : the offset for each slice is set to the beginning of the TR
- `-quintic` : interpolate using a 5th degree polynomial

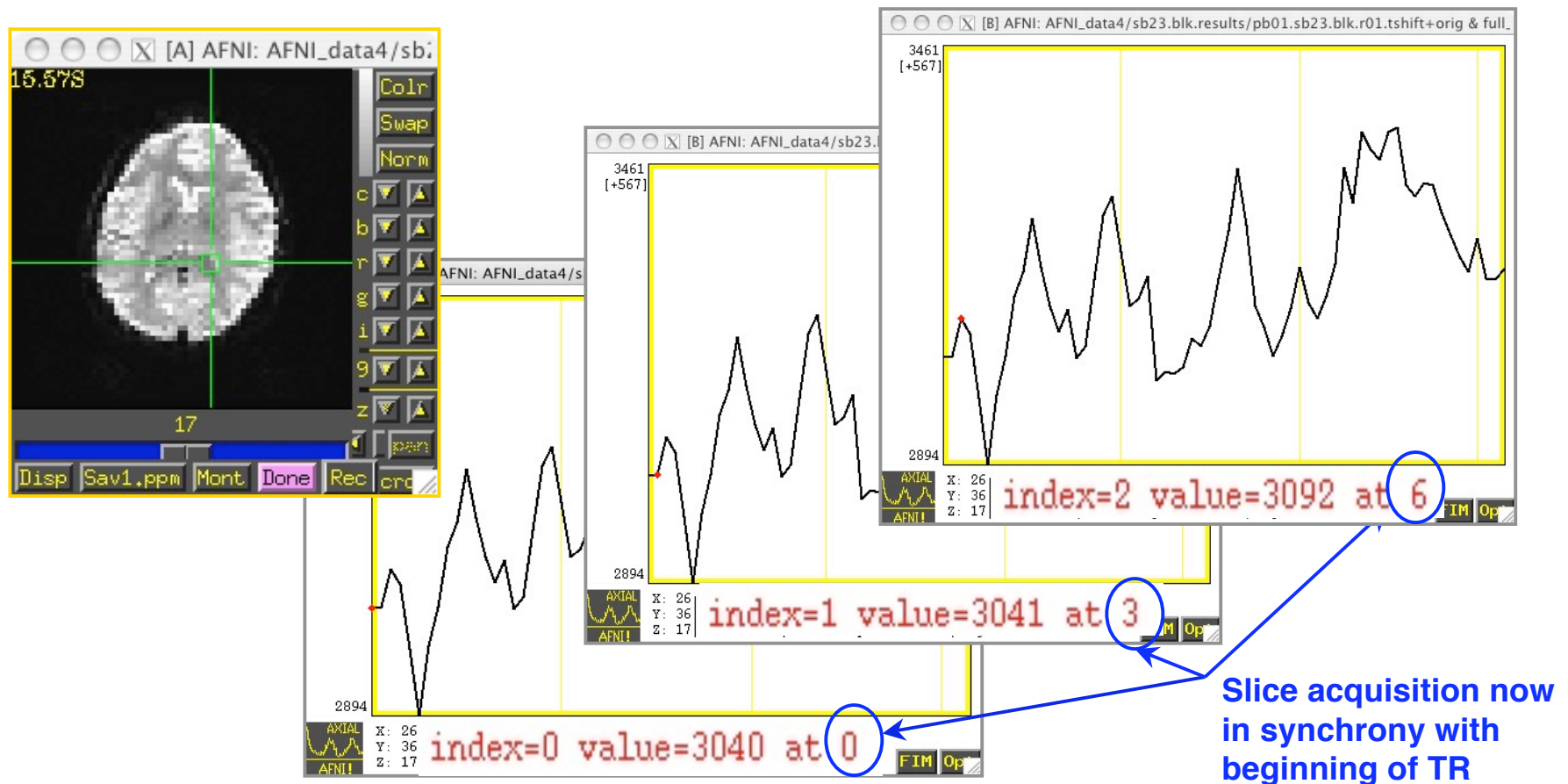
- ❖ Subject sb23's newly created time shifted datasets:

**pb01.sb23.blk.r01.tshift+orig (.HEAD/.BRIK)**

...

**pb01.sb23.blk.r09.tshift+orig (.HEAD/.BRIK)**

- ❖ Below is run 01 of sb23's time shifted dataset.





- **STEP 2**: Register the volumes in each 3D+time dataset using AFNI program 3dvolreg.
  - ❖ All volumes will be registered to the last volume of the last run (i.e., run 9, volume 63). This volume is closest in proximity to the anatomical dataset.

```
foreach run ( $runs )
    3dvolreg -verbose -zpad 1 \
            -base pb01.$subj.r09.tshift+orig'[63]' \
            -1Dfile dfile.r$run.1D \
            -prefix pb02.$subj.r$run.volreg \
            pb01.$subj.r$run.tshift+orig
end

cat dfile.r??.1D > dfile.rall.1D
```

- -verbose : prints out progress report onto screen
- -zpad : add one temporary zero slice on either end of volume
- -base : align to last volume, since anatomy was scanned *after* EPI
- -1Dfile : save motion parameters for each run (roll, pitch, yaw, dS, dL, dP) into a file containing 6 ASCII formatted columns
- -prefix : output dataset names reflect processing step 2 (volreg)
- input datasets are from processing step 1 (tshift)
- concatenate the motion parameters (dfiles) from all 9 runs into one file

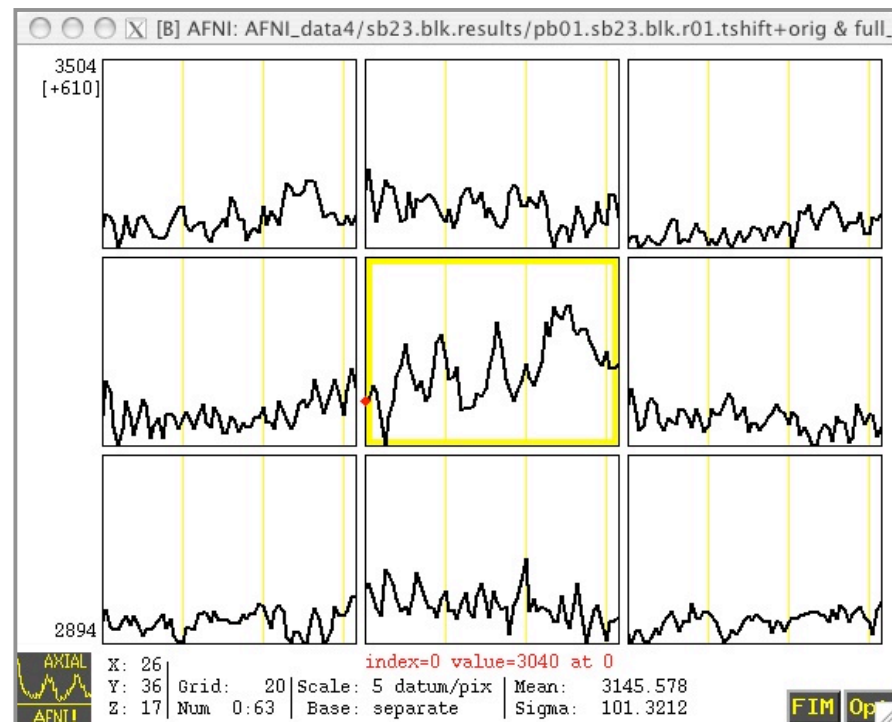
- ❖ Subject sb23's 9 newly created volume registered datasets:

**pb02.sb23.blk.r01.volreg+orig (.HEAD/.BRIK)**

...

**pb02.sb23.blk.r10.volreg+orig (.HEAD/.BRIK)**

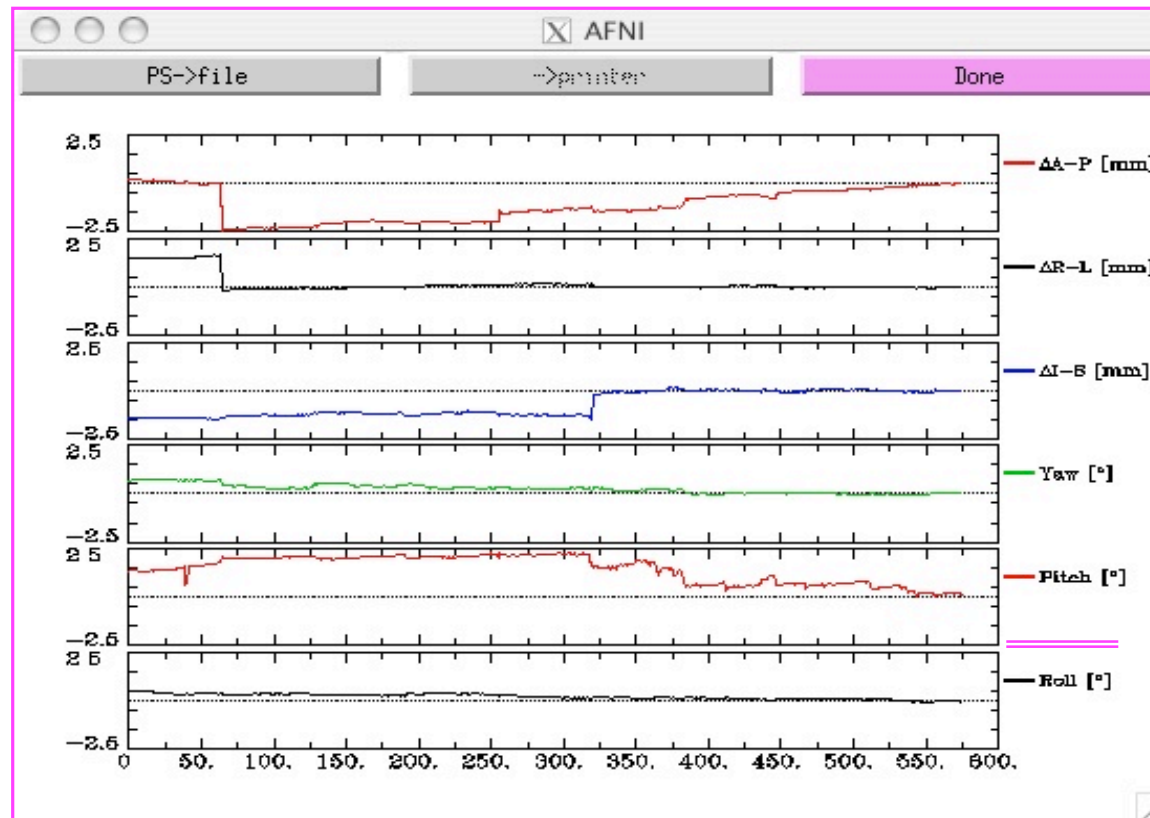
- ❖ Below is run 01 of sb23's volume registered datasets.



- ❖ view the registration parameters in the text file, **dfile.rall.1D**
  - this is the concatenation of the registration files for all 9 runs

```
1dplot -volreg dfile.rall.1D
```

- ❖ Slight movements going on here, especially at the “Pitch” angle



- **STEP 3**: Apply a Gaussian filter to spatially blur the volumes using program 3dmerge.

- ❖ result is somewhat cleaner, more contiguous activation blobs
- ❖ also helps account for subject variability when warping to standard space
- ❖ spatial blurring will be done on sb23's time shifted, volume registered datasets

```
foreach run ( $runs )
    3dmerge -lblur_fwhm 4.0 -doall \
        -prefix pb03.$subj.r$run.blur \
        pb02.$subj.r$run.volreg+orig
end
```

- -lblur\_fwhm 4: use a full width half max of 4mm for the filter size
- -doall : apply the editing option (in this case the Gaussian filter) to all sub-bricks in each dataset

❖ results from 3dmerge:

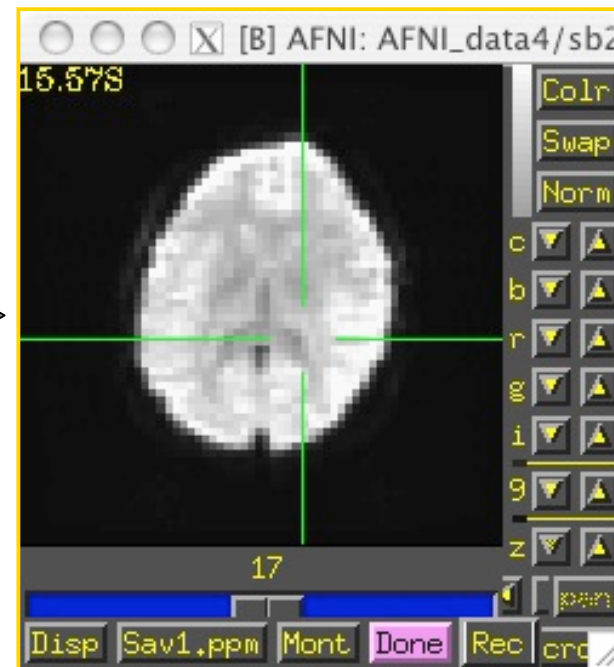
**pb02.sb23.blk.r01.volreg+orig**



**Before blurring**



**pb03.sb23.blk.r01.blur+orig**



**After blurring**

- **STEP 3.5 : creating a union mask**

- ❖ use **3dAutomask** to create a 'brain' mask for each run
- ❖ create a mask which is the union of the run masks (since we need only one main mask; not 9 individual masks from each run)
- ❖ this mask can be applied in various ways:
  1. During the scaling operation
  2. In **3dDeconvolve** (so that time is not wasted on background voxels)
  3. To group data, in standard space
    - may want to use the intersection of all subject masks

```
foreach run ( $runs )  
    3dAutomask -dilate 1 -prefix rm.mask_r$run \  
                pb03.$subj.r$run.blur+orig  
end
```

- **-dilate 1** : dilate the mask by one voxel (just to ensure that none of the voxels along the perimeter of the brain get accidentally clipped away and excluded from the mask).

- ❖ next, take the union of the run masks
  - the mask datasets have values of 0 and 1
  - can take union by computing the mean and comparing to 0.0
    - other methods exist, but this is done in just two simple commands

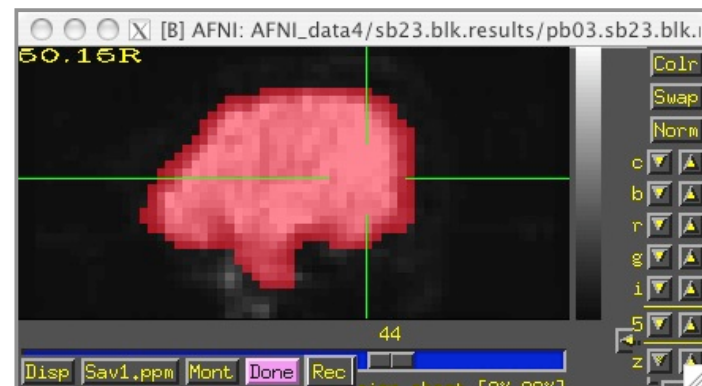
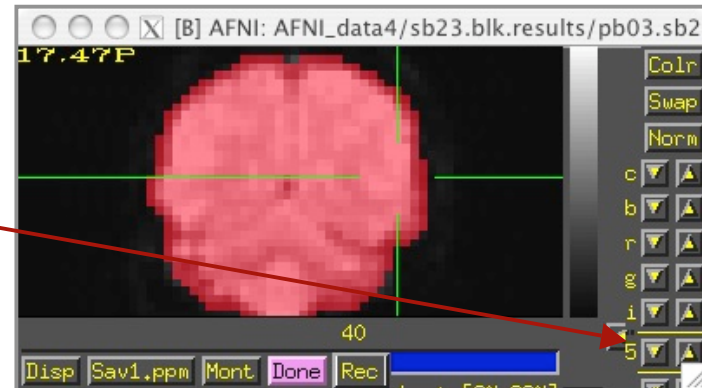
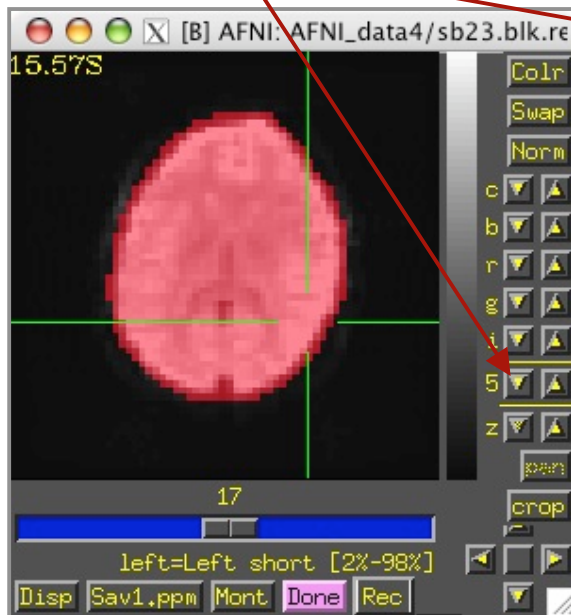
```
3dMean -datum short -prefix rm.mean rm.mask*.HEAD

3dcalc -a rm.mean+orig -expr 'ispositive(a-0)' \
       -prefix full_mask.$subj
```

- **-datum short** : force full\_mask to be of type short
- **rm.\* files** : these files will be removed later in the script
- **-a rm.mean+orig** : specify the dataset used for any 'a' in '-expr'
- **-expr 'ispositive(a-0)'** : evaluates to 1 whenever 'a' is positive
  - note that the comparison to 0 can be changed
    - ✓ 0.99 would create an intersection mask
    - ✓ 0.49 would mean at least half of the masks are set

- ❖ so the result is dataset, **full\_mask.sb23.blk+orig**
- ❖ view this in **afni**
  - load **pb03.ED.8.glt.r01.blur+orig** as the Underlay
  - load the **full\_mask.sb23.blk+orig** dataset as the Overlay
  - set the color overlay opacity to 5
    - allows the underlay to show through the overlay

color overlay  
opacity buttons





- **STEP 4: Scaling the Data - as percent of the mean**
  - ❖ For each run,
    - for each voxel:
      - compute the mean value of the time series
      - scale the time series so that the new mean is 100
  - ❖ Scaling becomes an important issue when comparing data *across* subjects:
    - using only one scanner, shimming affects the magnetization differently for each subject (and therefore affects the data differently for each subject)
    - different scanners might produce vastly different EPI signal values
  - ❖ Without scaling, the magnitude of the beta weights may have meaning only when compared with other beta weights in the dataset
    - Example, what does a beta weight of 4.7 mean? Basically nothing, by itself.
      - It is a small response, if many voxels have responses in the hundreds.
      - It is a large response, if it is a percentage of the mean.
  - ❖ By converting to percent change, we can compare the activation calibrated with the relative change of signal, instead of the arbitrary baseline of FMRI signal

❖ Another example:

**Subject 1** - signal in hippocampus has a mean of 1000, and goes from a baseline of 990 to a response at 1040

Difference = 50 MRI units

**Subject 2** - signal in hippocampus has a mean of 500, and goes from a baseline of 500 to a response at 525

Difference = 25 MRI units

❖ Conclusion: each shows a 5% change, relative to the mean.

- these changes are 5% above the baseline
- But 5% of what? It is 5% of the mean.

❖ Percent of baseline might be a slightly preferable scale (to percent of mean), but it may not be worth the price.

- the difference is only a fraction of the result
  - e.g. a 5% change from the mean would be approximately a 5.1% change from the baseline, if the mean is 2% above the baseline
- computing the baseline accurately is confounded by using motion parameters (but using motion parameters may be considered more important)

❖ Scale the Data:

```
foreach run ( $runs )
    3dTstat -prefix rm.mean_r$run pb03.$subj.r$run.blur+orig

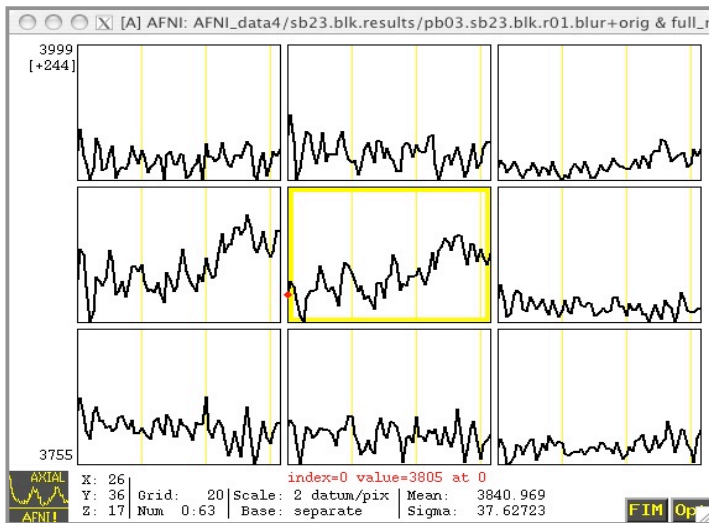
    3dcalc -a pb03.$subj.r$run.blur_orig -b rm.mean_r$run+orig \
        -c full_mask.$subj+orig \
        -expr 'c * min(200, a/b*100)' \
        -prefix pb04.$subj.r$run.scale
end
```

- ❖ dataset **a** : the blurred EPI time series (for a single run)
- ❖ dataset **b** : a single sub-brick, where each voxel has the mean value for that run
- ❖ dataset **c** : the full mask
  
- ❖ **-expr 'c \* min(200, a/b\*100)'**
  - compute **a/b\*100** (the EPI value '**a**', as a percent of the mean '**b**')
    - if that value is greater than 200, use 200
    - multiply by the mask value, which is 1 inside the mask, and 0 outside

- ❖ Compare EPI graphs from before and after scaling
  - they look identical, except for the scaling of the values
  - the EPI run 01 mean for the center voxel is 3840.969 in the blur dataset (so, dividing by 38.40969 gives the scaled value for this voxel)

### Before Scaling

**pb03.ED.glt.r01.blur+orig**



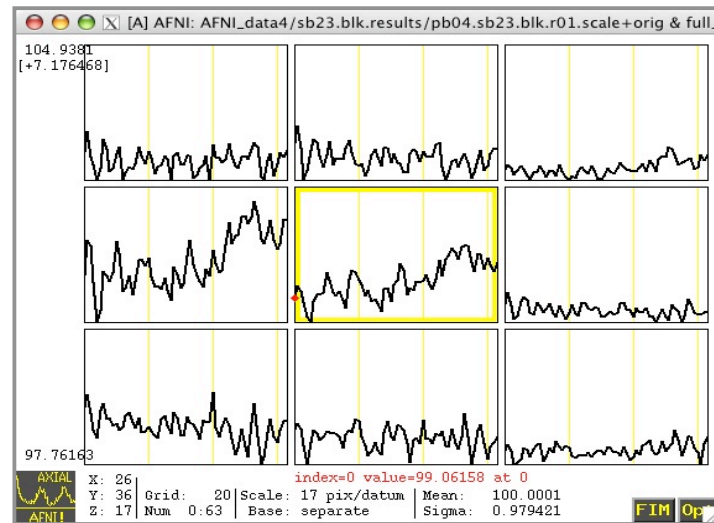
**Data Statistics**

```

Indexes = 0:63
x voxel = 26
y voxel = 36
z voxel = 17
Min      = 3755
Max      = 3912
Mean     = 3840.969
Sigma    = 37.62723
Median   = 3839
MAD      = 26.5
    
```

### After Scaling

**pb04.ED.glt.r01.scale+orig**



**Data Statistics**

```

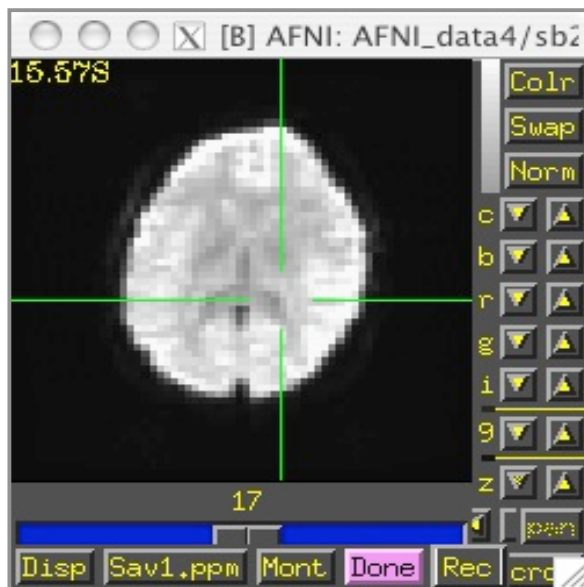
Indexes = 0:63
x voxel = 26
y voxel = 36
z voxel = 17
Min      = 97.76163
Max      = 101.8479
Mean     = 100.0001
Sigma    = 0.979421
Median   = 99.94886
MAD      = 0.689014
    
```

right-click in the  
center voxel of  
the graph window for  
data stats

- ❖ compare EPI images from before and after scaling
  - the background voxels are all 0, because of applying the mask
  - the scaled image looks like a mask, because all values are either 0, or are close to 100

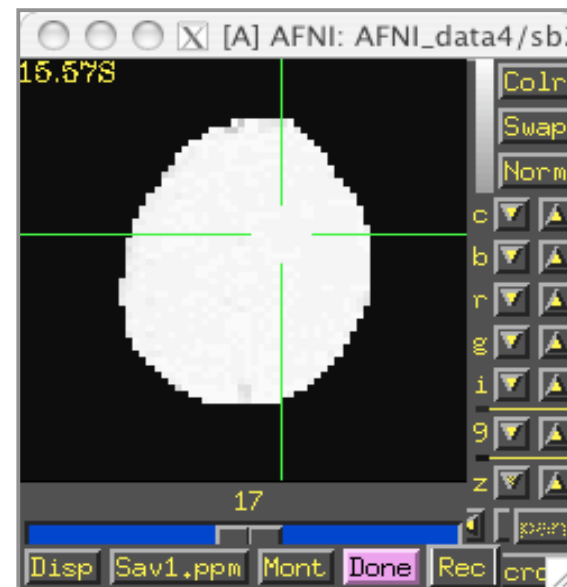
### Before Scaling

**pb03.sb23.blk.r01.blur+orig**



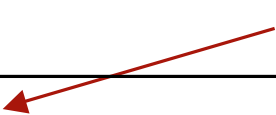
### After Scaling

**pb04.sb23.blk.r01.scale+orig**



- **STEP 5: Perform a regression analysis on Subject sb23's data with 3dDeconvolve.**
  - ❖ What is the difference between regular linear regression and deconvolution?
    - With linear regression, the hemodynamic response is assumed.
    - With deconvolution, the hemodynamic response is not assumed. Instead, it is computed by **3dDeconvolve** from the data.
      - For this dataset, we will go with the linear regression option in 3dDeconvolve.
  - ❖ **BLOCK(30,1)** was the response model chosen for this analysis. Why?
    - **BLOCK**: The design of this experiment is BLOCK, i.e., there are blocked intervals of stimulus presentations (ON), followed by blocked intervals of the control condition (OFF). This design differs from *event-related*, where experimental stimuli and controls are presented randomly throughout the experiment.
    - **30**: Each block lasts 30 seconds
    - **1**: The response function will have a peak of 1

- 3dDeconvolve command - Part 1



```
3dDeconvolve -input pb04.$subj.r??.scale+orig.HEAD \
              -polort 2 \
              -mask full_mask.$subj+orig \
              -num_stimts 15 \
```

Continued on next page...

- ❖ see input dataset list by typing: `echo pb04.$subj.r??.scale+orig.HEAD`
  - note that there should be 9 such datasets, for the 9 runs
  - the `.HEAD` suffix is necessary to do the wildcard expansion with '??'
- ❖ `-mask`: Use mask to avoid computation on zero-valued time series
- ❖ `-num_stimts 15`: 9 regressors + 6 motion parameters = 15 input stimulus time series
  - the 9 regressors of interests are given as timing files, via `-stim_times`
  - the 9 motion parameters are given as actual regressors, via `-stim_file`

- 3dDeconvolve command - Part 2

```
-stim_times 1 stimuli/blk_times.01.tneg.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 1 tneg \  
-stim_times 2 stimuli/blk_times.02.tpos.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 2 tpos \  
-stim_times 3 stimuli/blk_times.03.tneu.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 3 tneu \  
-stim_times 4 stimuli/blk_times.04.eneg.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 4 eneg \  
-stim_times 5 stimuli/blk_times.05.epos.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 5 epos \  
-stim_times 6 stimuli/blk_times.06.eneu.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 6 eneu \  
-stim_times 7 stimuli/blk_times.07.fpos.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 7 fpos \  
-stim_times 8 stimuli/blk_times.08.fneg.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 8 fneg \  
-stim_times 9 stimuli/blk_times.09.fneu.1D 'BLOCK(30,1)' \  
-stim_label 9 fneu
```

Continued on next page...

❖ **-stim\_times**: Our 9 regressors of interest are given using **-stim\_times** option



- 3dDeconvolve command - Part 3

```
-stim_file 10 dfile.roll.1D'[0]' -stim_base 10      \  
-stim_label 10 roll                                \  
-stim_file 11 dfile.roll.1D'[1]' -stim_base 11      \  
-stim_label 11 pitch                              \  
-stim_file 12 dfile.roll.1D'[2]' -stim_base 12      \  
-stim_label 12 yaw                                \  
-stim_file 13 dfile.roll.1D'[3]' -stim_base 13      \  
-stim_label 13 dS                                  \  
-stim_file 14 dfile.roll.1D'[4]' -stim_base 14      \  
-stim_label 14 dL                                  \  
-stim_file 15 dfile.roll.1D'[5]' -stim_base 15      \  
-stim_label 15 dP                                  \  

```

Continued on next page...

- ❖ Recall that **dfile.all.1D** contains 6 [columns] of registration parameters
  - roll [0], pitch [1], yaw [2], dS [3], dL [4], dP [5]
- ❖ **-stim\_base**: Our 6 motion parameters are given using **-stim\_base** to indicate they are part of the baseline model (i.e., regressors of no interest), and will be excluded from the Full-F statistic (which contains only the 9 regressors of interest).

- 3dDeconvolve command - Part 4

```
-gltsym 'SYM: +eneg -fneg' \
-glt_label 1 eneg_vs_fneg \
-gltsym 'SYM: 0.5*fneg 0.5*fpos -1.0*fneu' \
-glt_label 2 face_contrast \
-gltsym 'SYM: tpos epos fpos -tneg -eneg -fneg' \
-glt_label 3 pos_vs_neg \
-fout -tout -x1D X.xmat.x1D -xjpeg X.jpg \
-fitts fitts.$subj \
-bucket stats.$subj
```

End of command

- ❖ **-gltsym**: General linear tests are written out symbolically (and easily!) on the command line, e.g., '**SYM: +eneg -fneg**', which replaces something like:  
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ... 1 0 0 -1 0 0 0 0 0 ... 0
- ❖ **-fout**, **-tout**: output F and t-stats for each test
- ❖ **-x1D**: output the X matrix in a 1D text file (with NIML header), **X.xmat.1D**
- ❖ **-xjpeg**: also output the X matrix as a JPEG image, **X.jpg**
- ❖ **-fitts**: output the time series of the model fit in **fitts.sb23.blk+orig**
- ❖ **-bucket**: output all beta weights, glts and statistics on them into on them into one bucket dataset, **stats.sb23.blk+orig**

- After running **3dDeconvolve**, an 'all\_runs' dataset is created by concatenating the 9 scaled EPI time series datasets, using program **3dTcat**.

```
3dTcat -prefix all_runs.$subj pb04.$subj.r??.scale+orig.HEAD
```

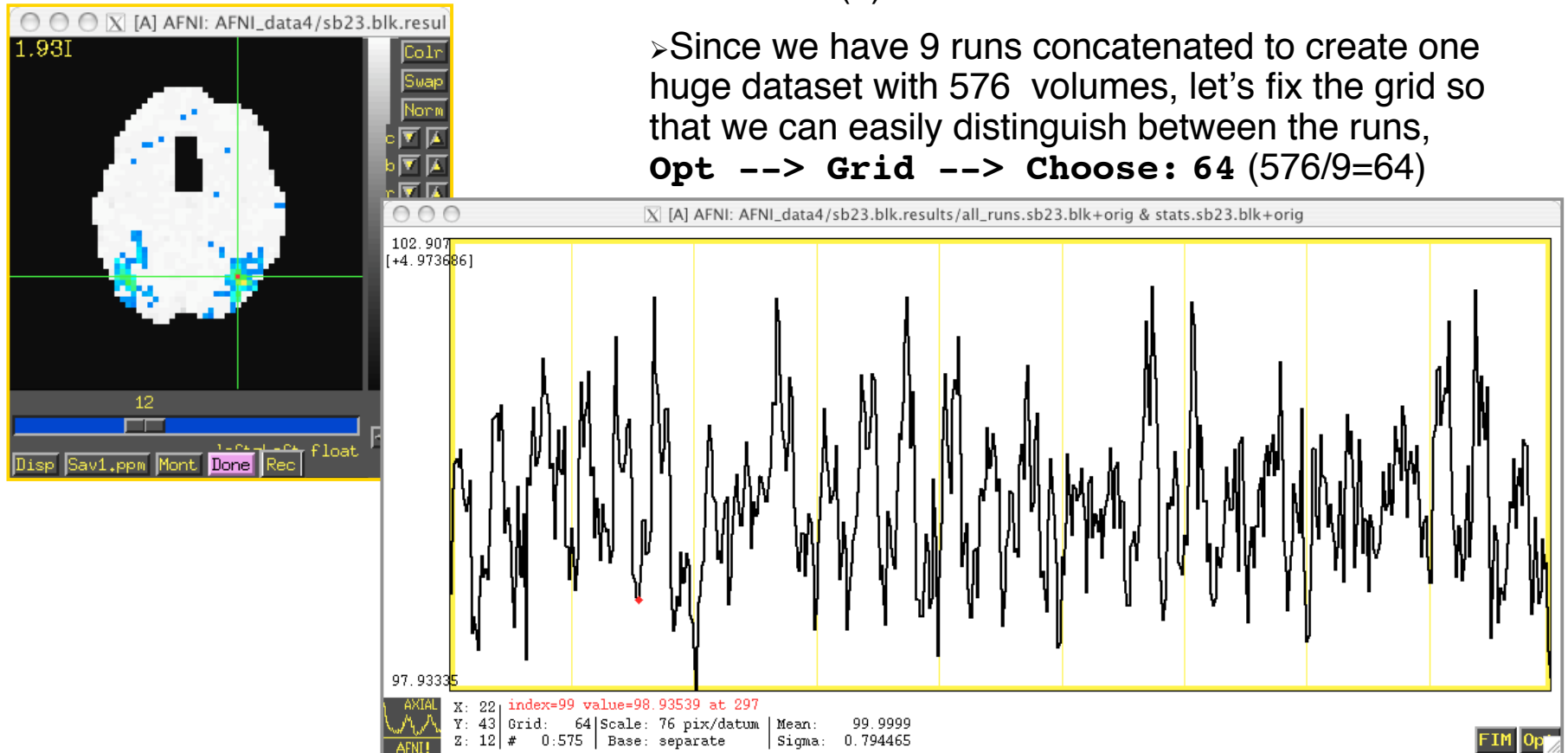
- ❖ Now we can use the **Double Plot** graph feature to plot the **all\_runs** dataset, along with the **fitts** dataset, in the same graph window
  - this shows how well we have modeled the data, at a given voxel location
    - the fit time series is the sum of each regressor (X matrix column), multiplied by its corresponding beta weight
    - the fit time series is the same as the input time series, minus the error
  - note that different locations in the brain respond better to some stimulus classes than others, generally, so the fit time series may overlap better after one type of stimulus than after another
  - We will focus on voxel **22 43 12 (ijk)**, which has the largest F-stat in the dataset

- Let's view some data:

- ❖ Graph:

- Axial view, one voxel shown only (**m**) and autoscaled (**a**).

- Since we have 9 runs concatenated to create one huge dataset with 576 volumes, let's fix the grid so that we can easily distinguish between the runs, **Opt --> Grid --> Choose: 64** ( $576/9=64$ )



UnderLay: **all\_runs.sb23.blk**

OverLay: **stats.sb23.blk** (Full F-stat)

Voxel: **Jump to (ijk) : 22 43 12**

- Now plot the **all\_runs** dataset along with the **fitts** dataset

- ❖ From the Graph window:

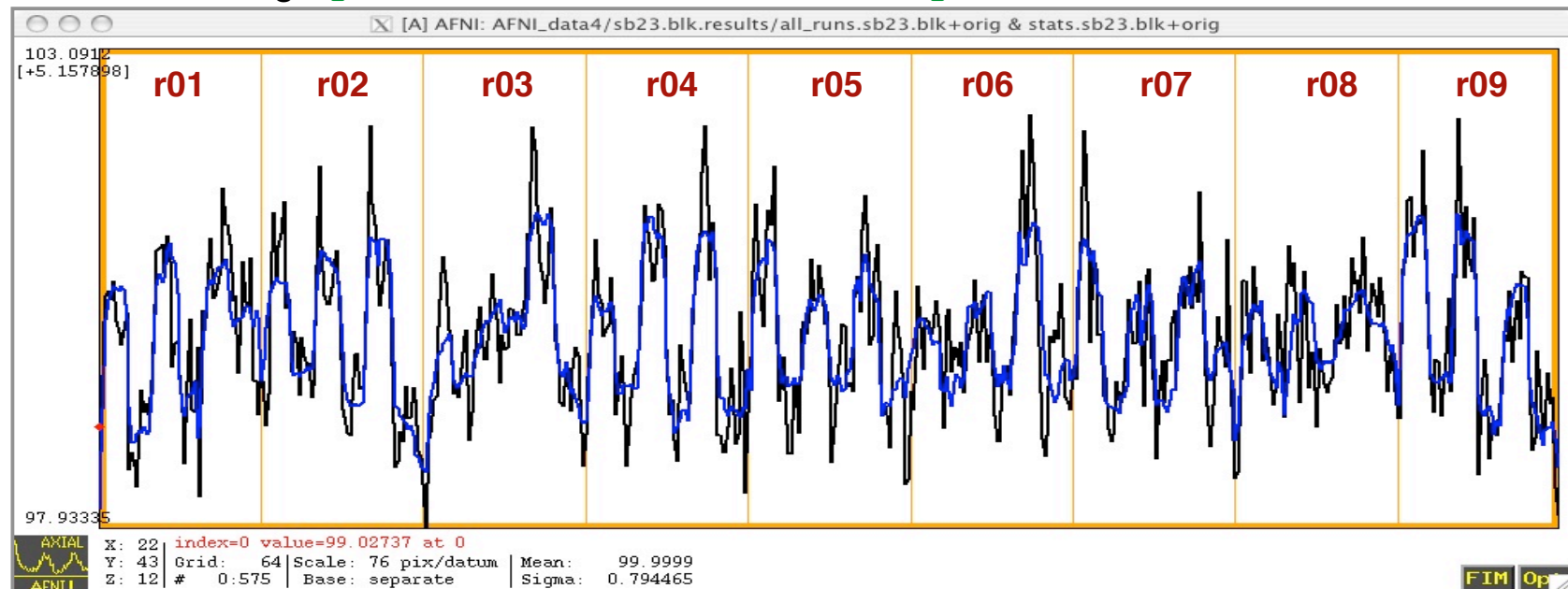
- **Opt --> Tran 1D --> Dataset #N**

- in the **Dataset #N** plugin, choose dataset **fitts.sb23.blk+orig**, and choose color **dk-blue** (this will overlay the fitts dataset (in dark blue) over our **all\_runs.sb23.blk+orig** dataset (in black), and we can see how well the data fits our model).

- ✓ Note: You can also get to **Dataset #N** plugin from the main plugins menu, located on the AFNI GUI at **Define Datamode --> Plugins --> Dataset #N**

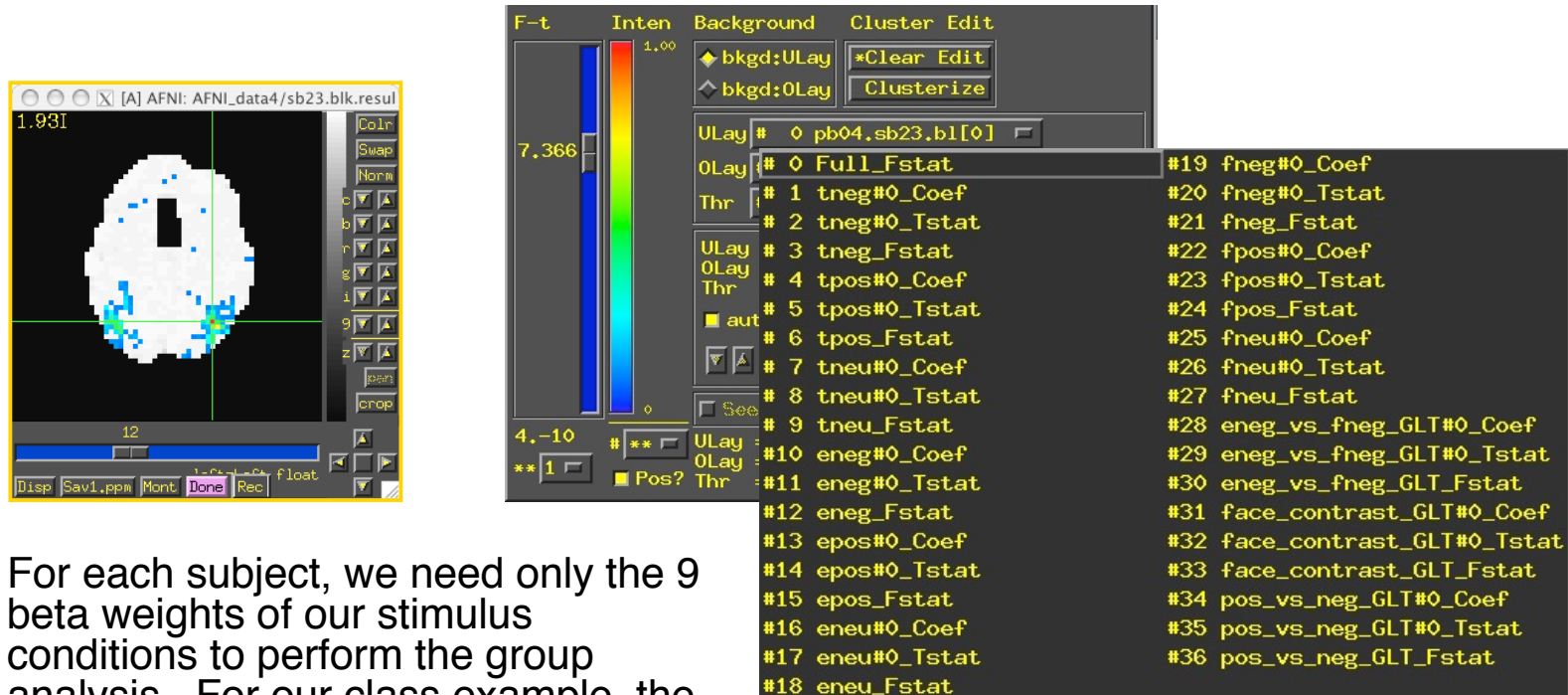
- Back to the Graph window, select **Opt -> Double Plot -> Overlay**

- In order to see the fitts overlay even better, let's make the dark blue line thicker, by selecting **Opt --> Colors, Etc. --> Dplot: Use Thick Lines**



Fairly good fit - some noise left over but nothing major.

- **STEP 6:** Use 3dbucket to create a Dataset containing only the 9-beta weights needed for the ANOVA



- ❖ For each subject, we need only the 9 beta weights of our stimulus conditions to perform the group analysis. For our class example, the beta-weights are located in the following sub-bricks:

Sub-brick 1 - tneg    Sub-brick 10 - eneg    Sub-brick 19 - fneg  
 Sub-brick 4 - tpos    Sub-brick 13 - epos    Sub-brick 22 - fpos  
 Sub-brick 7 - tneu    Sub-brick 16 - eneu    Sub-brick 25 - fneu

- AFNI **3dbucket** will be used to create a beta-weight-only dataset for *each* of our 16 subjects. Example for subject 23:

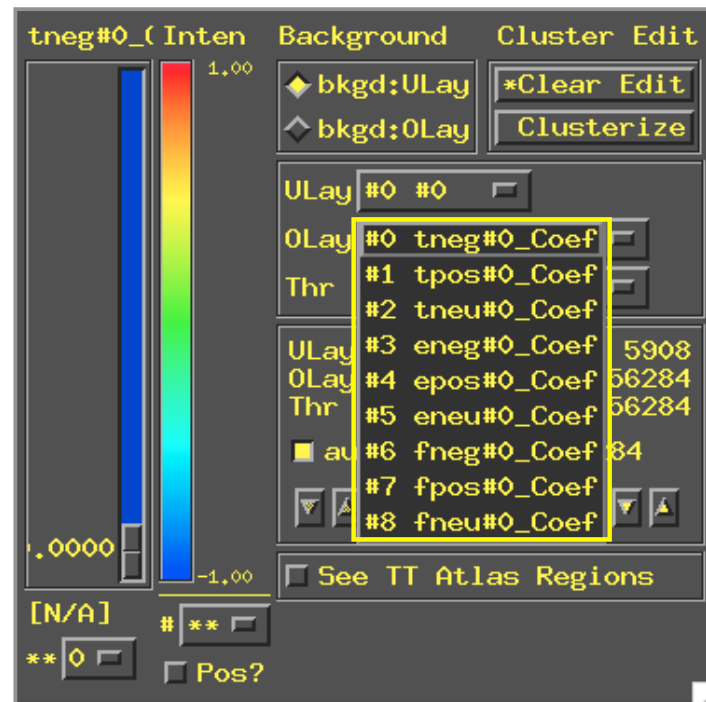
```
3dbucket -prefix stats.sb23.betas+orig \
stats.sb23.blk+orig' [1,4,7,10,13,16,19,22,25]'
```

- ❖ Result: One dataset for each of the 16 subjects, containing only the 9 sub-bricks of regressors of interest. These regressors will be used for the ANOVA.
  - Datasets for our 16 subjects:

stats.sb04.betas+orig  
stats.sb05.betas+orig  
stats.sb07.betas+orig  
stats.sb08.betas+orig  
stats.sb09.betas+orig  
stats.sb10.betas+orig

stats.sb11.betas+orig  
stats.sb14.betas+orig  
stats.sb15.betas+orig  
stats.sb16.betas+orig  
stats.sb17.betas+orig  
stats.sb18.betas+orig

stats.sb19.betas+orig  
stats.sb20.betas+orig  
stats.sb21.betas+orig  
stats.sb22.betas+orig  
stats.sb23.betas+orig



stats.sb23.betas+orig

- **STEP 7: Warp the beta datasets for each subject to Talairach space, by applying the transformation in the anatomical datasets with adwarp.**

- ❖ For statistical comparisons made across subjects, all datasets -- including functional overlays -- should be standardized (e.g., Talairach format) to control for variability in brain shape and size

- E.g., for subject sb23:

```
adwarp -apar sb23_mpra+tlrc -dxyz 3 \
      -dpar stats.sb23.betas+orig
```

- ❖ The output of **adwarp** will be a Talairach transformed dataset for all 16 subjects.

```
stats.sb04.betas+tlrc, stats.sb05.betas+tlrc ...
stats.sb23.betas+tlrc
```

- We are now done with Part 1, Process Individual Subjects' Data, for Subject sb23
  - ❖ go back and follow the same steps for remaining subjects
- We can now move on to Part 2, RUN GROUP ANALYSIS (ANOVA)



- **PART 2 ⇒ Run Group Analysis (ANOVA3):**

- ❖ In our sample experiment, we have 3 factors (or Independent Variables) for the Analysis of Variance:

- IV 1: **CATEGORY** ⇒ 3 levels

- ✓ telephone (T)

- ✓ email (E)

- ✓ Face-to-face (F)

- IV 2: **AFFECT** ⇒ 3 levels

- ✓ negative (neg)

- ✓ positive (pos)

- ✓ Neutral (neu)

- IV 3: **SUBJECTS** ⇒ 16 levels

- Subjects sb04, sb05, sb07, sb08, sb09, sb10, sb11, sb14 ... sb23

- ❖ The Talairached beta datasets from each subject will be needed for the ANOVA:

**stats.sb04.betas+tlrc ... stats.sb23.betas+tlrc**

- **3dANOVA3 Command - Part 1**

IV's A & B are fixed, C is random  
See 3dANOVA3 -help

**3dANOVA3 -type 4**

**-alevels 3**

**-blevels 3**

**-clevels 16**

**-dset 1 1 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[0]'**

**-dset 1 2 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[1]'**

**-dset 1 3 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[2]'**

**-dset 2 1 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[3]'**

**-dset 2 2 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[4]'**

**-dset 2 3 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[5]'**

**-dset 3 1 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[6]'**

**-dset 3 2 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[7]'**

**-dset 3 3 1 stats.sb04.betas+tlrc'[8]'**

**-dset 1 1 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[0]'**

**-dset 1 2 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[1]'**

**-dset 1 3 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[2]'**

IV A: Category

IV B: Affect

IV C: Subjects

beta datasets,  
created for  
each subject  
(3dDeconvolve  
output)

*Continued on  
next page...*

- 3dANOVA3 Command - Part 2

```
-dset 2 1 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[3]' \
-dset 2 2 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[4]' \
-dset 2 3 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[5]' \
-dset 3 1 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[6]' \
-dset 3 2 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[7]' \
-dset 3 2 2 stats.sb05.betas+tlrc'[8]' \

. . .

-dset 1 1 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[0]' \
-dset 1 2 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[1]' \
-dset 1 3 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[2]' \
-dset 2 1 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[3]' \
-dset 2 2 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[4]' \
-dset 2 3 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[5]' \
-dset 3 1 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[6]' \
-dset 3 2 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[7]' \
-dset 3 3 16 stats.sb23.betas+tlrc'[8]' \
```

more  
beta  
datasets

*Continued on  
next page...*

- 3dANOVA3 Command - Part 3

Main effect for factor  
'b', (Affect)

```
-fa Category \
-fb Affect \
-adiff 1 2 TvsE \
-bdiff 1 3 TvsF \
-bcontr 0.5 0.5 -1 non-neu \
-aBcontr 1 -1 0 : 1 TvsE-neg \
-aBcontr 1 -1 0 : 2 TvsE-pos \
-bucket anova33
```

Produces main effect for factor 'a'  
(Category), i.e., which voxels show  
increases in % signal change that is  
significantly different from zero?

These are  
contrasts  
(t-tests).  
Explained on  
pp 44-45

All F-tests, t-tests,  
etc will go into this  
dataset bucket

*End of ANOVA  
command*

- ❖ **-adiff**: Performs contrasts between levels of factor 'a' (or `-bdiff` for factor 'b', `-cdiff` for factor 'c', etc), with *no* collapsing across levels of factor 'a'.

➤ E.g.1, Factor 'a' Category --> 3 levels: (1)Telephone, (2)Email, (3) Face-to-Face

`-adiff 1 2 TvsE`

`-adiff 1 3 TvsF`

`-adiff 2 3 EvsF`

} Simple paired t-tests, no collapsing across levels, like Telephone/Email vs. Face-to-Face

- ❖ **-acontr**: Estimates contrasts among levels of factor 'a' (or `-bcontr` for factor 'b', `-ccontr` for factor 'c', etc). *Allows* for collapsing across levels of factor 'a'

➤ E.g.1, Factor 'a' Category --> 3 levels: (1)Telephone, (2)Email, (3) Face-to-Face

`-acontr -1 .5 .5 EFvsT` ← Email/Face-to-Face vs. Telephone

`-acontr .5 .5 -1 TEvsF` ← Telephone/Email vs. Face-to-Face

`-acontr .5 -1 .5 TFvsE` ← Telephone/Face-to-Face vs. Email

❖ **-aBcontr**: 2nd order contrast. Performs comparison between 2 levels of factor 'a' at a *Fixed* level of factor 'B'

- E.g. factor 'a' --> Telephone(1), Email(-1), Face-to-Face (0)  
factor 'B' --> Negative(1), Positive(2), Neutral (3)

- We want to compare 'Negative Telephone' vs. 'Negative Email'. Ignore 'Positive' and 'Neutral'

**-aBcontr 1 -1 0 : 1 TvsE\_neg**

- We want to compare "Positive Telephone" vs. 'Positive Email'. Ignore 'Negative' and 'Neutral'

**-aBcontr 1 -1 0: 2 TvsE\_pos**

❖ **-Abcontr**: 2nd order contrast. Performs comparison between 2 levels of factor 'b' at a *Fixed* level of factor 'A'

- E.g., factor 'A' --> Telephone(1), Email(2), Face-to-Face (3)  
factor 'b' --> Negative(1), Positive(-1), Neutral (0)

- We want to compare 'Negative Telephone' vs. 'Positive Telephone'. Ignore 'Email' and 'Face-to-Face'

**-Abcontr 1 : 1 -1 0 Tneg\_vs\_Tpos**

- We want to compare "Negative Email" vs. 'Positive Email'. Ignore 'Telephone' and 'Face-to-Face'

**-Abcontr 2 : 1 -1 0 Eneg\_vs\_Epos**

❖ In class -- Let's run the ANOVA together:

➤ **cd AFNI\_data4**

- This directory contains a script called `s2.anova` that will run `3dANOVA3`
- This script can be viewed with a text editor, like **emacs** or **gedit**

➤ **tcsch s2.anova**

- execute the ANOVA script from the command line

➤ **cd group\_results ; ls**

- result from ANOVA script is a bucket dataset `anova33+tlrc`, stored in the `group_results/` directory

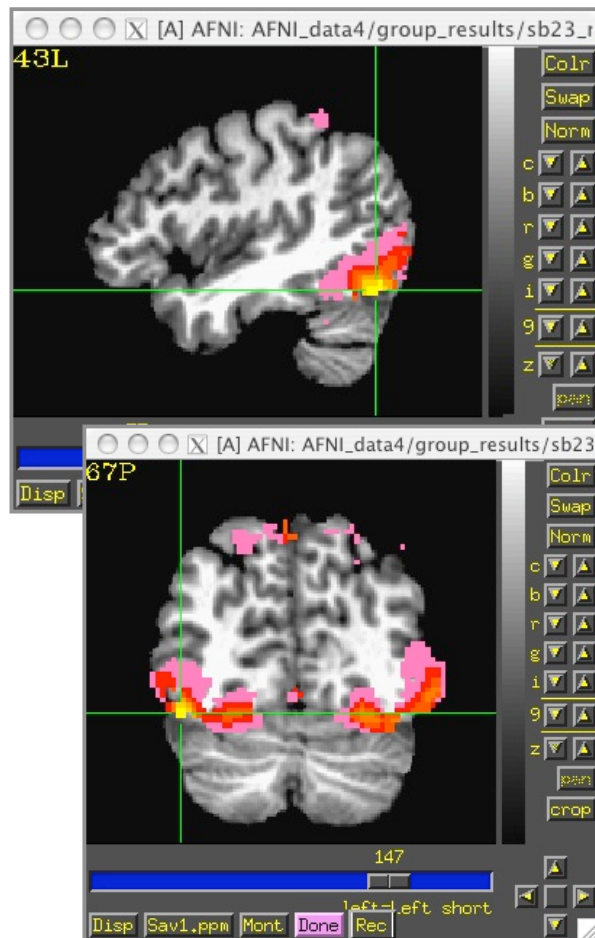
➤ **afni &**

- launch AFNI to view the results

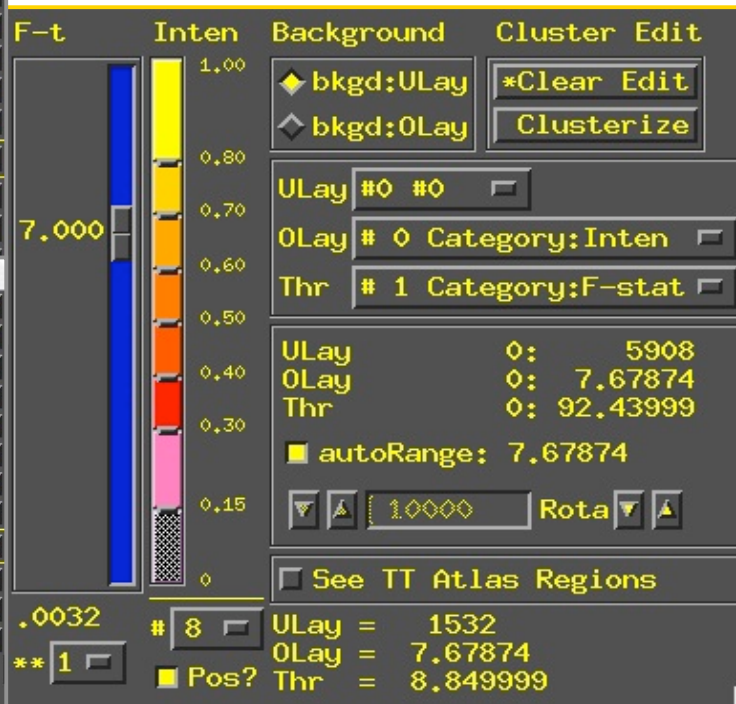
❖ The output from **3dANOVA3** is bucket dataset **anova33+tlrc**, which contains 35 sub-bricks of data:

- i.e., main effect F-tests for factors A and B, 1st order contrasts, and 2nd order contrasts

- **-fa**: Produces a main effect for factor 'a'
  - In this example, -fa determines which voxels show a percent signal change that is significantly different from zero when any level of factor "Category" is presented
  - **-fa Category:**



ULay: **sb23\_mpra+tlrc**  
OLay: **anova33+tlrc**

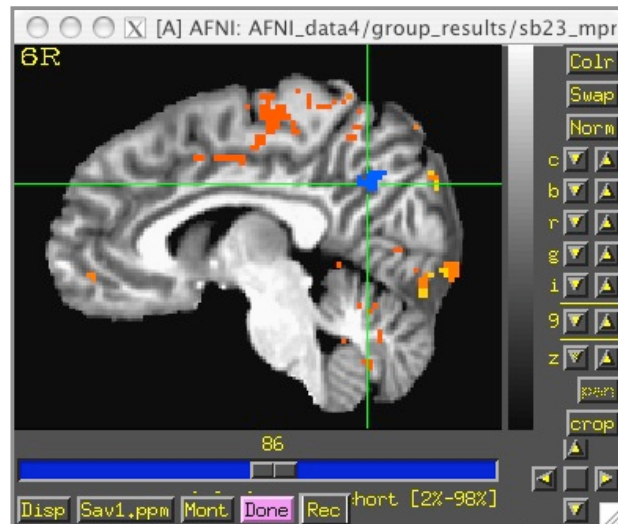


**Activated areas respond to CATEGORY in general (i.e., telephone, email, and/or face-to-face)**



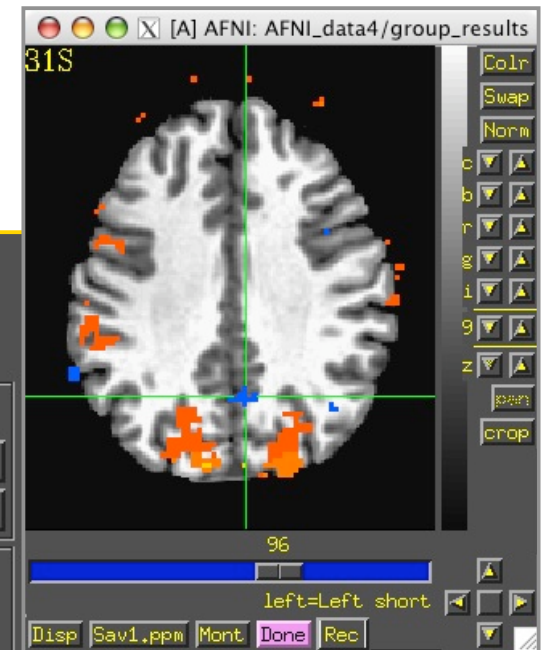
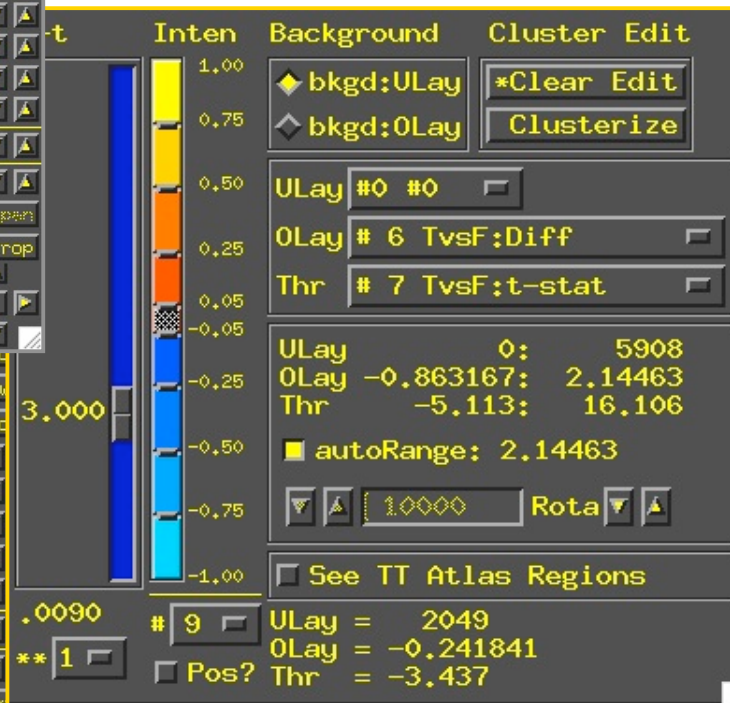
- ❖ Brain areas corresponding to “Telephone” (reds) vs. “Face-to-Face” (blues)

➤ **-diff 1 2 TvsF**



ULay: **sb23\_mpra+tlrc**

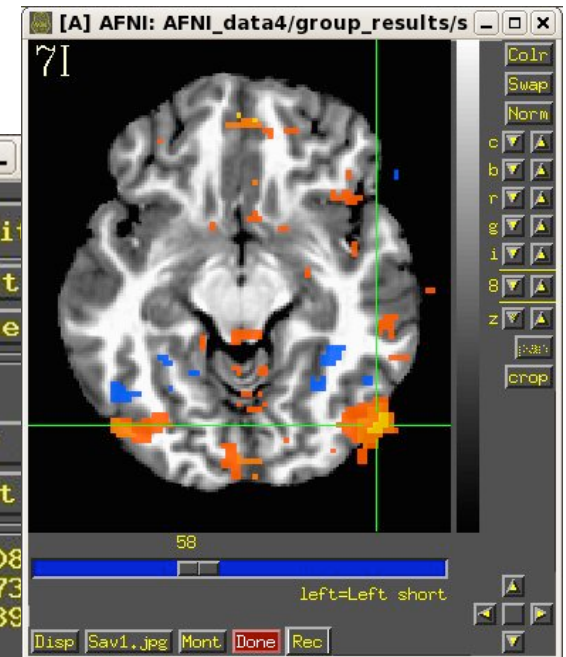
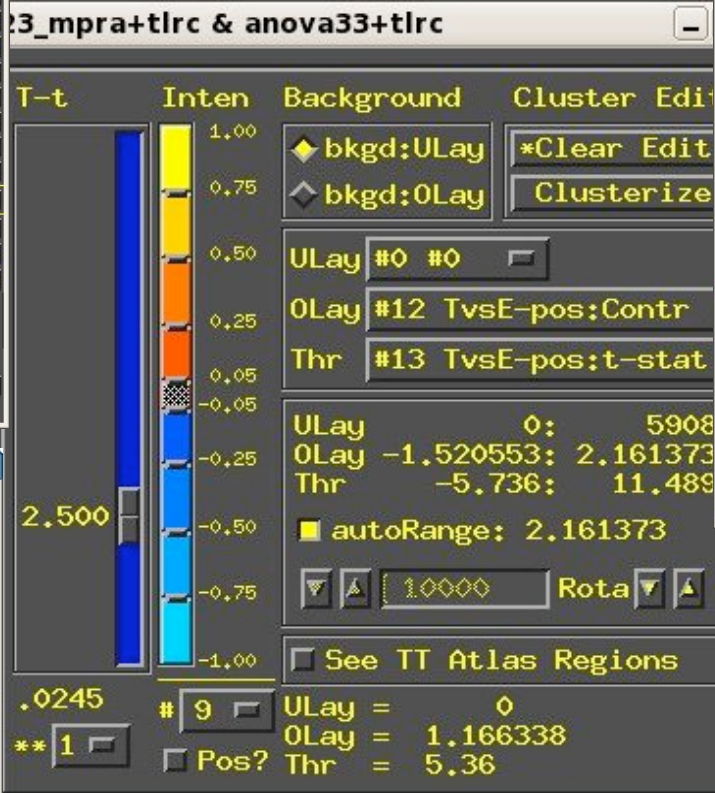
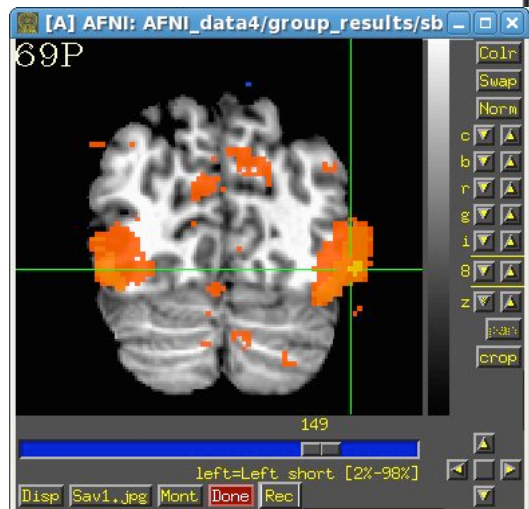
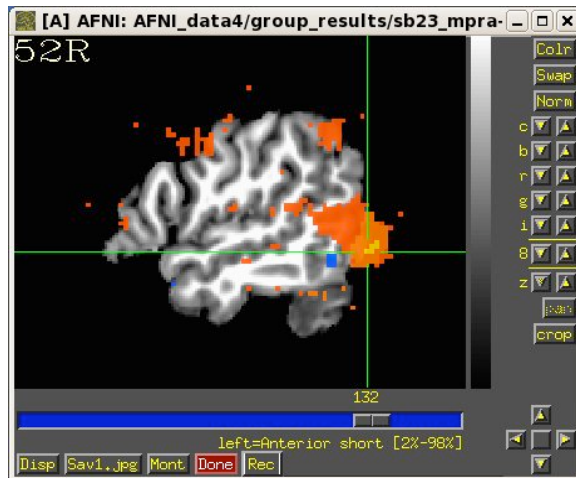
OLay: **anova33+tlrc**



Red blobs show statistically significant percent signal changes in response to “Telephone.” Blue blobs show significant percent signal changes in response to “Face-to-Face” displays

❖ Brain areas corresponding to “Positive Telephone” (reds) vs. “Positive Email” (blues)

➤ **-aBcontr 1 -1 0: 2 TvsE-pos**



Red blobs show statistically significant percent signal changes in response to “Positive Telephone.” Blue blobs show significant percent signal changes in response to “Positive Email” displays

- Many thanks to NIMH LBC for donating the data used in this lecture
- For more information on AFNI ANOVA programs, visit the web page of Gang Chen, our wise and infinitely patient statistician:

<http://afni.nimh.gov/sscc/gangc>